



Career Options in **RELIGION**

The study of religion is a humanistic discipline that focuses on religion as one important element in culture. Historical, literary, anthropological, and theological methods of study offer a critical approach to understanding religion and its expressions in myths, symbols, and ideas, as well as in religious communities, rituals, and moral actions. Religion addresses the experiences, narratives, and imagination of individuals and groups as they strive to articulate meaningful lives. As an academic study, religion focuses both on institutional formations associated with traditions and world religions as well as social, cultural, and political developments that evoke ultimate commitments from participants. Because this study often considers fundamental human questions that are asked by every generation, it is closely linked with other academic disciplines which study the nature and character of human life.

A major in religion provides the context for historical and conceptual engagement with some of the most profound ideas, thinkers, and questions that challenge humanity. It also serves as the first stage for those interested in graduate work or a professional career in religion. Majors in religion have followed diverse national and international careers such as business, law, journalism, non-profit organizations, and public service.

SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS: Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of occupations related to this major. Specific requirements based on education level for each occupation may vary. For additional information and assistance, please speak with a Career Consultant.

Caseworker	Child Welfare Worker
Church Administrator	Community Services Director
Counselor	Crisis Services
Development Officer/Fundraiser	Educator
Issue Advocate	Minister/Pastor/Rabbi
Missionary	Non Profit Organization Administrator
Peace Corps Worker	Religious Research Assistant
Writer	Youth Counselor

SAMPLE WORK SETTINGS:

Consulting Firms	Educational Institutions
Government Agencies	Health Care Industry
Hospitals	Law Firms
Non-Profit and Human Services Organizations	Religious Organizations
Religious Publications	Research Firms

RELATED MAJOR SKILLS & CHARACTERISTICS:

Oral and Written Communication	Teamwork
Learning Foreign Languages	Diligent Reading
Critical Analysis	Thorough Research

SAMPLE GW RESOURCES

GW CAREER CENTER RESOURCES: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

GWork: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

Career Search: <http://careersearch.net>

GW DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION: <http://www.gwu.edu/~religion/index.html>

Undergraduates: <http://www.gwu.edu/~religion/ugrad.html>

Graduates: <http://www.gwu.edu/~religion/grad.html>

SAMPLE WEBSITES:

Career Planning Resources:

Career Browser- Religion Major: http://www.collegeboard.com/csearch/majors_careers/profiles/majors/38.00.html

University of North Carolina- Wilmington: <http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/philoreligion.htm>

NC State: http://www.ncsu.edu/majors-careers/do_with_major_in/showmajor.php?id=18

Rutgers- College Majors and Careers: <http://careerservices.rutgers.edu/religion.html>

Job Search Resources:

Spirit and Sky: <http://www.spiritandsky.com/religion/christianity/employment/>

Bates College Employment Database: <http://abacus.bates.edu/career/search/religion.html>

Google Directory: http://directory.google.com/Top/Society/Religion_and_Spirituality/Christianity/Employment/

Monster.com: <http://www.monster.com>

Professional Organizations & Associations:

Arizona State- Database: <http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/library/teams/fah/subpathpages/Religion/PathWebOrg.html>

AcademicInfo.Net Database: <http://www.academicinfo.net/Religionsoc.html>

Hartford Institute Database: http://hrr.hartsem.edu/sociology/sociology_professional_associations.html

Yale Database: <http://www.library.yale.edu/rsc/religion/assns.html>

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